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 Approved For Release 2001/12/04 : CIA-RDP82-00457R008400570012-8
 COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) **CONFIDENTIAL** 649
 TOPIC Zerbst Airfield 25X1A
 25X1A
 EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]
 DATE OF CONTENT _____
 DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 2 August 1951
 REFERENCES 25X1A
 PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____
 REMARKS _____
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 25X1X

- 25X1X
1. Zerbst airfield was occupied by about 50 jet fighters prior to 5 April 1951. The planes then left for an undetermined destination. Since early-April 1951, about 600 laborers of the Dresden Bauunion Firm have done construction work at the field. The entire runway which was 2 km long was covered with insulating wallboard and topped with a new concrete layer of about 10 to 12 cm. The runway was to be lengthened by 500 meters, toward the hangars. Work on the runway had allegedly to be completed by early-August 1951. A new taxiway leading from the hangars, and along the runway, was under construction. On both sides of the taxiway, the landing field was being graded about 750 meters. Four Diesel locomotives and dumpcars were used for the construction work. There were four hangars at the field.
 2. On 28 June, the road leading from Zerbst to Dobritz was temporarily opened to public traffic. It appeared that the runway, which was being enlarged to the north, would not be completed before late July 1951. The entire area of the field was being graded. Five Soviet tractors were used.
 3. At 10:20 a.m. on 28 June, a biplane landed at the field. A major from Potsdam who inspected the field two or three times a week got out of the plane. A new ammunition dump was established in the northwestern section of the field. About 150 bombs, of about 500 kgs, which had been trucked to the dump, were stored there. An air force truck [REDACTED] was seen on the road leading to the field.
- 25X1C
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4. On 1 July, construction work was being done at the airfield. The NE-SW runway was probably being resurfaced. The last 400 meters of the SW section was not concreted. Tar was being poured into the joints between the concrete slabs. Large-scale work, the purpose of which could not be determined, was under way near the hangars on the northern edge of the field. Soviet soldiers equipped with special vehicles plowed and graded the landing field on both sides of the runway. No aircraft and only a few air force personnel were seen at the field. *

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Comment. The airfield was occupied by two fighter regiments up to early April 1951 when the regiments were transferred to Koethen. Since early April, large-scale construction work, its purpose undetermined, has been under way. According to the present report, the old runway is being given a new surface and a new taxiway is being constructed. The reported target date of completion agrees with that reported from other airfields which are also being improved, such as Eriesen airfield where work is to be completed by 10 or 15 August 1951.

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